Sl.No.	Location	Railway	No.	Location	Railway
89.	Habibganj/Bhopal	West Central Railway	95.	Ahmedabad	Western Railway
90.	Indore	Western Railway	96.	Vadodara	Western Railway
91.	Vapi	Western Railway	97.	Dwarka/Okha	Western Railway
92.	Veraval	Western Railway	98.	Surat	Western Railway
93.	Rajkot	Western Railway	99.	Bombay Bandra	Western Railway
94.	Mumbai Central	Western Railway	100.	Ujjain	Western Railway

Gauge conversion in Rajasthan and Uttaranchal

899. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for gauge conversion in Rajasthan and Uttaranchal going to be executed under National Rail Development Scheme;

(b) if so, what is the proposal and when it is being executed;

(c) whether Jaipur-Phulera-Ringus-Rewari section, which is quite sensitive and important is also going to be included in the scheme; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) Gauge conversions of Bhildi-Samdari and Ajmer-Phulera-Ringus-Rewari in Rajasthan are being executed under National Rail Vikas Yojana (NRVY) by Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL). These projects are expected to be completed in 2008-09.

No project in Uttaranchal is being executed under NRVY.

Manual scavenging at platforms

900. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of petition filed by 'Safai Kamdar Andolan' before Supreme Court on inhuman practice of manual scavenging in Indian Railways;

(b) whether it is a fact that manual scavenging is prohibited in our country by 1993 Parliament Act; and

(c) if so, what actions are taken by his Ministry to stop manual scavenging on railway platforms?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Writ Petition (Civil) No. 583 was filed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India by Safai Karamchari Andolan and Others *versus* Union of India & Others requesting the Hon'ble court to direct the concerned Departments, including Railways, to take immediate time bound and effective steps for eliminating manual scavenging.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There is no manual scavenging being practiced in any establishments under the control of the Ministry of Railways. All old dry latrines requiring manual scavenging were already converted many years back either to sanitized latrines with proper septic tank systems or to bio-latrines which do not require manual scavenging. In order to have effective waste disposal system, concrete washable aprons on platform tracks, controlled discharge toilets in trains are also being provided.

Trains for Gujarat

901. SHRI VIJAYKUMAR RUPANI:
SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when a new train running between Jamnagar-Mumbai as Superfast is to be materialized;

(b) since when the demand for above mentioned new train is made by the people of Saurashtra and elected Members of Parliament;

(c) whether a demand for the extension of "Navjivan Express" upto Rajkot is examined and the decision taken thereon; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

(b) Demands have been received from Hon'ble Members of Parliament and people of Saurashtra from time to time.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Extension of 2655/2656 Chennai-Ahmedabad Navjeevan Express upto Rajkot has not been found feasible due to operational and resource constraints.

Train from Bangalore to Mangalore

902. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of the introduction of train from Bangalore to Mangalore *via* Hassan;

(b) the reasons for the delay in introduction of this train;

(c) what would be the frequency of this proposed train; and

(d) the places at which this train would stop?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) 6517/6518 Yesvantpur-Mangalore Express via Mysore-Hassan has been introduced from 08.12.2007. 6515/6516 Yesvantpur-Mangalore Express via Arsikere-Hassan has not been introduced.